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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attorney Docket No.:

Dougles Fyleletin

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Lee Cohen

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Art Unit: 3739

In re application of:

SCOTT CIARROCCA et al.

Application No.: 10/082,017

Filed: February 25, 2002

For: **ELECTROSURGICAL APPARATUS AND**

METHODS FOR CUTTING TISSUE

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 9, 2003 setting a shortened statutory period of one month for reply, Applicant submits this response with a one-month extension of time. Accordingly, this response is timely submitted.

Applicant elects the species corresponding to Figure 59. Applicant submits claims 1-28, 30-32, 43-83, and 94-124 are readable thereon. Should the generic claim be allowable, Applicant requests that the claims corresponding to the unelected species that include each of the claim limitations of the generic claim be considered and allowed as provided under 37 CFR §1.141.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (408) 736-0224.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharp 6, 2003

Richard R. Batt Reg. No. 43,485

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